CLAIMS

- 1. An electrical contact member wherein one or both of conductive metal particles and conductive metal fibers, at least outer circumferential surfaces of which have been modified with carbon nanofibers or carbon nanotubes, are disposed in a contact layer through which current flows.
- 2. An electrical contact member according to Claim 1, wherein a support layer is provided on a rear surface of the contact layer.
- An electrical contact member according to Claim 1, wherein an initial wear layer is formed on a contact surface side of the contact layer.
- 4. An electrical contact member according to Claim 2, wherein an initial wear layer is formed on a contact surface side of the contact layer.
- 5. An electrical contact member according to Claim 1, wherein the electrical contact member is fixed to a spring member that is plate-like or bar-like.
- 6. An electrical contact member according to Claim 1, wherein graphite is included in the contact layer.
- 7. An electrical contact member according to Claim 2, wherein graphite is included in the contact layer.
- 8. An electrical contact member according to Claim 3,

wherein graphite is included in the contact layer.

- An electrical contact member according to Claim 1,
 wherein carbon nanofibers or carbon nanotubes are separately included in the contact layer.
- 10. An electrical contact member according to Claim 2, wherein carbon nanofibers or carbon nanotubes are separately included in the contact layer.
- 11. An electrical contact member according to Claim 3, wherein carbon nanofibers or carbon nanotubes are separately included in the contact layer.